Exhibit 42

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

: Docket #20-cv-05589 BRIAN JOSEPH GREF,

Plaintiff, :

-against-

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL

INDUSTRIES, et al, : New York, New York

May 19, 2023

Defendants.

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PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALERIE FIGUEREDO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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1	THE COURT: Hi, everyone. This is Brian			
2	Joseph Gref v. American International Industries,			
3	20-cv-5589. Just because of the number of people on			
4	the call, I'm just going to limit. If counsel who,			
5	I guess, intend to speak can introduce themselves.			
6	So I'm going to start off with counsel for the			
7	plaintiffs.			
8	I understand Mr. Kramer is on the line; is			
9	that correct?			
10	MR. KRAMER: That is correct, Your Honor.			
11	Good afternoon.			
12	THE COURT: Good afternoon. And then for			
13	Northwell Health, I understand Mr. Nathan Huff is on			
14	the line.			
15	MR. HUFF: Good afternoon, Your Honor.			
16	That's correct.			
17	THE COURT: Okay. And then for American			
18	International Industries, Mr. Sargente, will you be			
19	speaking or is there someone else that should be			
20	identified?			
21	MR. SARGENTE: I believe one of the other			
22	attorneys for AII will be primarily the speaker.			
23	THE COURT: And could either or both of			
23	THE COURT: And could either or both of those attorneys just identify yourself, please.			

1 Neil Schonert with Lathrop, and Kurt Greve is on the 2 line as well. THE COURT: Okay. Based on our prior 3 4 conferences, I think those were generally the three 5 entities that engaged in the discussion. If there's anyone else who at any other point wants to chime 6 7 in, you're more than welcome to do so. I just ask that you identify, make an appearance right now. So 8 9 if there's anyone else who wants to make an 10 appearance. 11 MR. MARINO: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Kevin Marino, Marino, Tortorella & Boyle, for 12 13 Dr. Moline. I don't know if I'll be called on to 14 speak, but I wanted you to know I'm on the line. 15 THE COURT: Oh, yes, I'm sorry, Mr. Marino, 16 that I missed you, but I do recall from the prior 17 conferences. Thank you. 18 Okay. So this is really intended to be a 19 very short conference. I think the reason I asked 20 for the parties to get on this, I just wanted to get 21 on the record and just really get crystal clear what 22 plaintiffs mean when they say in their letter from 23 May 1st at ECF 337 that they're withdrawing Dr. Moline's reliance on the Moline article. 24 25 And so, Mr. Kramer, if you just want to

explain what you mean when you say that, I'd like to just get that on the record.

MR. KRAMER: Certainly, Your Honor. And I think to get this as crystal clear as I possibly can, and keeping in mind Your Honor's willingness to keep this brief, the record and Your Honor may benefit from just a history of how we got here. And just to remind the Court of who this case is about, I represent Brian Gref, who's currently 40 years old. He was diagnosed with a fatal cancer, mesothelioma, back in November of 2019.

We filed this case in a New York City asbestos litigation in July of 2020. It was removed by Johnson & Johnson to the Southern District on July 20th, 2020, after which all discovery took place. And as Your Honor is acutely aware, we are now in our sixth month of litigating the issue of the subpoena to reveal the identity of the confidential human subjects at the heart of Dr. Moline's 2020 article.

As Your Honor is also aware, back in November, before this issue came to light, I and others from my office had met and conferred with defendants in this case to discuss issues surrounding any possible continuation of

Dr. Moline's deposition, which had already gone seven and a half hours as of last fall. At that point, we had come to an understanding that any continuation would be on her dose calculations, which she began to testify about in her deposition.

It was only after that meet and confer where we were surprised with AII's application to reveal the identity of the article, which is not something that was met and conferred about, not something that was discussed, and yet became now the central issue of six months of discovery litigation.

Now, we made the determination after we appeared before Your Honor to discuss this issue further a month or so ago that our duty to our client, who is dying from a fatal cancer, needs to go forward. We, therefore, on May 3rd, wrote to Your Honor in our letter stating that because this particular article is merely one of many, many articles in the medical and scientific literature connecting not only asbestos to this cancer, but low levels of asbestos to the cancer, it is among articles discussing fiber levels released by asbestos in cosmetic talc in which Dr. Moline had no hand in writing or researching.

And with that in mind and considering the

statement made on November 2020 made by AII in Docket Number 263, its initial motion to compel on page five, wherein they state that Dr. Moline is entitled to keep this information confidential should she decide not to testify about the article or the cases therein upon direct examination, we decided to take AII at its word, and we are withdrawing Dr. Moline's reliance on this particular article. We are withdrawing the minimal reliance, as stated in our other experts' reports on this particular article.

And we do not intend to address them on direct examination with any of our experts. We do not intend to have Dr. Moline discuss the cases on direct examination. Which thereby, according to, I think, AII's own reasoning, moots the entire issue. We can move forward with discovery and get a trial date for this living plaintiff.

So that's where we are, Your Honor. And, as you may have seen, we filed last night a motion for discovery sanctions against AII because -- and we were not parties to the *Bell* litigation. Your Honor is aware that this entire issue stems from a false premise based on a false narrative that there is any connection between a so-called allegation of

1 asbestos at Ms. Bell's workplace and her 2 mesothelioma, which has led us down this wild goose chase for six months. 3 4 It has now been uncovered through discovery 5 in other cases that the entire premise of that has been false. And there's been an attempt to persuade 6 this Court to unravel and reveal confidential 7 information based on nothing. AII's own experts 8 9 agree, after reviewing the same exact information as 10 Dr. Moline did in the Bell case, that there was 11 nothing to connect Ms. Bell to any occupational 12 exposure there, therefore no controversy --13 MR. GREVE: Excuse me, Mr. Kramer --14 MR. KRAMER: I'm still speaking. 15 MR. GREVE: Your Honor, would you like me 16 to object now before he is done? 17 MR. KRAMER: No, no, no. 18 MR. GREVE: I mean, I'm just -- we're 19 talking now about a motion that's not properly 20 before the Court for this hearing. It was filed 21 last night. 22 MR. KRAMER: No, I think -- I'm still 23 talking. 24 MR. GREVE: I think Mr. Kramer understands 25 that the level of misrepresentations here are quite

1 extreme. 2 MR. KRAMER: Well, we look forward to the 3 full argument on that. I only raise it now, Your 4 Honor, because --5 MR. GREVE: To summarize --6 MR. KRAMER: Wait a minute, wait a minute. Your Honor, Your Honor --7 8 MR. HUFF: I don't understand why he's 9 still speaking over Mr. Kramer. I don't understand 10 it. 11 THE COURT: So I'm just going to chime in a 12 minute. To just interrupt, I really don't want to 13 spend any more of your time or my time on this. And 14 the reason for the conference was really to get on 15 the record exactly what Mr. Kramer meant by he was 16 going to withdraw his reliance. 17 Mr. Kramer, I just want to confirm, because 18 I'm familiar with Dr. Moline's expert report and I know she cites to the article. Despite the 19 20 citation, there won't be any direct -- she cites to 21 it, I believe, in a footnote. 22 But despite the citation, you don't intend 23 to have her discuss it in any way; is that correct? 24 MR. KRAMER: That is correct. And we have 25 offered -- I'm sorry, Your Honor.

THE COURT: No, no, go ahead. 1 2 MR. KRAMER: I was saying, and we're 3 offering her to get to the heart -- to get back to 4 what was initially the request to continue her 5 deposition, we feel that it's fair to offer three hours to further explore the dose calculations that 6 she discussed. And, as we also mentioned, because 7 now we are six months beyond where we had expected 8 9 to be in this case, she has authored other articles 10 or one other article in particular. We feel that is 11 fair game. We would amend her expert disclosure to include reliance on that as well. 12 13 THE COURT: Reliance on a different 14 article? 15 MR. KRAMER: Correct. 16 THE COURT: Okay. And then you had also 17 briefly stated that you had other experts that also 18 relied on this 2020 Dr. Moline article; is that 19 true? 20 MR. KRAMER: That is true. 21 Dr. Finkelstein --22 THE COURT: Then on the -- no, go ahead. 23 Go ahead. MR. KRAMER: Dr. Finkelstein references the 24 25 article very minimally in his report. He has

already been deposed in this case. He will not rely upon the article on direct. And Dr. Zhang, who is our pathologist, who really will only be talking about diagnosis in this case, will not be relying upon it. We were not going to ask him about it on direct, either.

THE COURT: Okay. So just to keep this moving along, everyone's aware, you know, the party issuing the subpoena has to demonstrate that there's the information -- on a motion to quash, I'm sorry, the defendants bear the burden of demonstrating that the information sought is relevant and material to the claims of the case.

I'm not going to give you a written decision because it's pretty clear, given
Mr. Kramer's statements on the record, that they're not at all using or relying on Dr. Moline's 2020 article, that there just isn't a basis to conclude that the article is relevant. And for the reasons we've discussed at length at two conferences, the burden on Northwell Health here, there's no way defendants can overcome the showing of burden if there's no relevance hook. And if Dr. Moline is not relying on her article, there is no relevance hook.

MR. GREVE: Your Honor, counsel for AII.

1 May I be heard on that? 2 THE COURT: Sure. Is this Mr. Greve? 3 4 MR. GREVE: Yes, Your Honor. And let me 5 make sure I understand -- if I understood the Court 6 correctly. 7 Is the Court of the opinion at this moment 8 in time that the issue is moot because Mr. Kramer has expressed his disclaimer of the Moline 2020 9 10 article in any form or fashion? Did I understand 11 that correctly? 12 THE COURT: Yeah. I mean, it's more than 13 just mootness; right? Under the analysis, we look 14 at the burden on Northwell Health and the relevancy 15 of the information. You know, at one point 16 previously, I think from the prior two conferences, 17 I might have alluded to the belief that I thought it 18 was relevant because this was -- you know, Dr. Moline is the causation expert, and this was one 19 20 of the articles she was relying on to show the 21 causal link between the mesothelioma and the 22 exposure to cosmetic talcum powder. 23 If she's no longer relying on this article 24 in any way, which, from Mr. Kramer's assertions, that's what it sounds like or that's what it's being 25

represented to be on the record, then there's no longer a basis for defendants to claim the information is relevant. And we're not just talking about any information. Again, we're talking about HIPAA-protected information, information that's protected under the common rule.

And for the many reasons Northwell Health has outlined in their letter, it would be burden -- unduly burdensome for them to produce that information. Now, if the information had been relevant, I think there's arguments to be made that the calculation is different. But right now, if they're not relying on the article in any way, there's no relevancy hook.

MR. GREVE: And, Your Honor, if I can address them not relying on it in any way, again, like we've seen before, they say this, but then what does that really mean? The Moline 2023 article, the new article that they would like to supplement and make part of the Gref case, incorporates by reference the Moline 2020 article. It is a continuation of that work.

So the representation that there's nothing in any way that would connect what's going to happen in the future to the 2020 article that was subject

to the subpoena is absolutely false. It will be part of it. And, Your Honor, when plaintiffs make the statement that, oh, we won't use this on direct or we won't use this affirmatively, well, they can still talk.

The ultimate opinion that Dr. Moline has that she wants to express is that the cosmetic talc is a cause of pleural or peritoneal mesothelioma. That's the ultimate opinion. And she can mention this without even mentioning the article name. But you can't unring this bell. This is the foundation of her opinion, and it starts with Moline 2020, which is then incorporated into the new article, Moline 2023.

And while plaintiffs have made some affirmatives that there may be 500-some-odd referenced articles, as you illustrate or as you asked Mr. Kramer or one of the attorneys on the other side in the last hearing, it ultimately boils down to Emery and Moline for the proposition of any type of cosmetic talc being associated with mesothelioma. And they need this article. They need this bridge because they don't have any large-scale, peer-reviewed scientific epidemiological studies to support their position.

In fact, that information proves the opposite. Miners and millers who milled this stuff and mined this stuff didn't get mesothelioma. And that's why this article was created to begin with. And so if we were just looking at the cross examination aspect of this, it's not as simple to say, oh, well, she's not going to rely on it. It's part of her foundational opinion. It's actually referenced in this new article.

And then when we cross over to the next level of when we challenge this expert in a Daubert process, the underpinning the foundation of her initial opinion is always going to be at issue here. And the fact that one of Moline's 33 has been established to be suspect, you know, for lack of a better word, but definitely there is significant evidence of alternate exposure that should have been considered by Dr. Moline. Okay?

At the very least, she should have recognized it. She should have considered it. And so that goes to her methodology. And that was something that was talked about extensively in the Bell opinion, that when we were dealing with the expert challenge here, her foundation, how she came to this conclusion, her methodology, all of this is

going to be significant. This goes to Dr. Moline's bias, and it goes to her credibility.

And their withdrawal of the "we won't mention this on direct" is illusory. This topic is going to come up. And despite Mr. Kramer's representations that they weren't going to use this in any form or fashion, it is being used in a form and fashion. It's directly referenced in the new article that he wants to insert into this exact matter at this late point in time, an article that has the exact same problems as Moline 2020.

We haven't asked any of their experts about Moline 2023 and that article. We haven't talked to anyone about that. And the discovery that will ensue and will result from us trying to understand the provenance, the history, the foundation for the Moline 2023 hearing, that's going to take an extensive amount of time.

And so as plaintiffs are just saying,

"Judge, we just want to substitute in this other

article; it's really no big deal," it's a huge deal.

And the substitution, as I mentioned before, even

references the 2021 that they're trying to disclaim

reliance on. It makes no sense. And it's just not

something that will be manageable at trial because

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there will always be a way for them to get this information in. And at the same time, they will have run out the clock in terms of any discovery that can be done on this that would reveal the true nature and potential bias of the foundation of these, quote/unquote, test subjects. THE COURT: Either Mr. Marino or Mr. Kramer, this 2023 article, is it a different scientific study with different individuals? MR. KRAMER: It has different individuals incorporated within it. Just to frame this correctly, Your Honor -this is Mr. Kramer. The original article dealt with 33 patients of which none of them had any known exposures to asbestos. The new article actually addresses the very issue that defendants claim they were so interested in because it identifies individuals with both cosmetic talc exposure and other exposures to asbestos-containing products and comes to the same conclusion. So I'm not sure exactly how this would blow

So I'm not sure exactly how this would blow open all sorts of credibility issues and issues of discovery. But, briefly, Your Honor, just to reset the table here of what we're actually here to discuss, we're not here to discuss Daubert. We're

not here to discuss motions for summary judgment.

And, respectfully, Your Honor, you're not here to discuss what may happen at the trial after motions in limine or when the trial judge decides how information can be used.

We're here on a discovery issue and we've now, I think as Your Honor has already alluded to, given adequate representation such that the relevancy issue is now completely obliterated.

Should AII or others wish to raise something about this issue in a Daubert challenge, they're more than free to. In fact, they could use this affirmation however they want in a Daubert motion. So they can still do whatever they plan to do regarding foundation.

That has nothing to do with whether or not this article should now still be used despite their representations that, even if we withdrew it, that would nullify the issue. As to credibility, again, there is a disclaimer in every single article on this subject where Dr. Moline tells the world, the publishing world, exactly where she got the information. So credibility is something that can still be explored on the stand.

And as to whether this topic is going to

come up, well, it's not going to be coming up through us. If they choose to somehow insert this, then -- you know, and the door is open, that's on them. But we have made our affirmation. We have made our representation to Your Honor. It's now on the record, and we intend to obviously abide by it in any directive that either Your Honor or the trial judge may give.

THE COURT: Okay. So I think, Mr. Kramer,
I agree, the reliability of Dr. Moline's methodology
or her credibility in terms of any scientific method
she used for this 2020 article is certainly
something that is explored at a Daubert motion or
hearing, not here.

So, again, for the reasons I've already indicated, I'm going to grant Northwell Health's motion to quash or to modify the subpoenas because I believe they were willing to comply with some aspects of it. I will enter an order indicating that. But the reasoning will be the reasons I gave on the record just now.

MR. GREVE: Your Honor, if I may ask one question. I understand the Court's ruling, but on the issue of mootness, if an underlying dispute between two parties is capable of repetition yet

evading review, would that mean it's not moot?

THE COURT: So, just to be clear, I'm not

finding that it's moot. I'm finding that defendants

have not established that the information they seek

is relevant to their claims here now, and that given

7 which is basically that the 2020 article is somehow

the very minimal relevance we're talking about,

8 incorporated into a new article involving new

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9 individuals that she published in 2023, and given

Mr. Kramer's indications that the 2020 article will

11 not be used offensively in any way by plaintiffs.

Again, because defendants haven't shown that the information they're seeking is relevant to their claims, and Northwell Health has made an ample showing that it will be unduly burdensome for them to disclose the identities of these individuals. So that's the basis of my reasoning that the undue burden on Northwell outweighs any potential relevancy here. It's not mootness.

MR. GREVE: Okay. I understand, Your Honor.

And then one last point of clarification.

So if discovery was allowed and the remaining 32 individuals were also identified and also determined to have alternate exposures to asbestos that were

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not disclosed by Dr. Moline, similar to that of Mrs. Bell, that would not be relevant or sufficient enough relevance to garner that type of discovery. Do I understand that correctly? MR. KRAMER: Your Honor, I think this is now going into an advisory opinion based on a hypothetical that, frankly, I don't even understand. I don't think it's even appropriate to ask the Court that. MR. GREVE: Well, let me see if I can -- my question, Your Honor, is: We're saying that there hasn't been an establishment of this being relevant 13 in light of Northwell's concerns and plaintiff's 14 concerns. And ultimately, what we're trying to find out is if Dr. Moline made material misrepresentations of fact regarding alternate exposure to known asbestos for the other 32 18 individuals, similar to what was done in the Bell instance. Is it the Court's opinion that that information is not something that a defendant would 22 be entitled to, nor would it have any significance 23 in terms of carrying its burden on this motion? 24 THE COURT: No. I mean, I don't think I'm 25 at all suggesting that. I'm saying that within the

context of the information you seek for the 2020 article, the basis for the relevancy determination was that she was relying on the 2020 article in her expert opinion and she was using it affirmatively to establish that causation nexus.

But if they're no longer relying on it, that's the reason it's no longer relevant, the reason you've no longer shown that it's relevant to the claims here. Your issue about the material misrepresentations, that's certainly something you could bring up on a Daubert challenge completely unrelated to whether she's relying or using the 2020 article.

MR. GREVE: And, Your Honor, one thing, as the new article has been interjected, I think there was a representation that Mr. Gref was not part of the 2020 Moline article.

Is there any representation that Plaintiff Gref is not included in the new Moline 2023 article?

MR. HUFF: Your Honor, this is Nate Huff for Northwell. At the appropriate time, I had a clarification I just wanted to make before you issue your ruling. So whenever you're ready to hear from us on that, we're happy to proceed.

THE COURT: Well, Mr. Huff, I don't know if now is a good time. Feel free to chime in.

MR. HUFF: Sure.

So there have also been -- in the course of the various briefing on our motion to modify, there had also been a pair of cross motions to compel that basically and entirely incorporated by reference all of the same arguments. In other words, they weren't raising new grounds. It was just an alternate, a repackaging of the same arguments. And so we just flag that for you in case it's also your intent to simultaneously deny those cross motions to compel.

And then you had also noted that there were some aspects of the subpoenas to which Northwell was willing to comply -- or with which Northwell was willing to comply. We just wanted to note for the record that, with regard to those aspects, we have made a document production already back at the outset. And so with the Court's ruling, we would view our role in responding to the subpoenas to be complete.

THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Huff, thanks for the clarification. I found the cross motion to compel at 281, but the analysis would still be the same.

MR. HUFF: Yes, Your Honor, we agree with

1 that because it's the exact same argument. It's 2 just fully incorporated. We just wanted to flag 3 that just because those are also hanging out there. 4 THE COURT: Yes, I appreciate it. 5 written order will close out all those motions. And, again, it's for the reasons I've indicated on 6 the record. So there won't be a written decision. 7 8 MR. HUFF: Yes, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: Is there anything else from 10 anyone else? 11 MR. GREVE: Yes, Your Honor. Kurt Greve with AII. 12 13 In terms of the logistics associated with 14 this order and the introduction of -- I quess, is 15 the Court going to allow Mr. Kramer to substitute in 16 additional reliance material, specifically the Moline 2023 article? Because if the Court's 17 18 inclined not to allow that additional 19 supplementation, then that would alleviate the need 20 for going back and redeposing every single expert in 21 this case on that subject matter. 22 And, obviously, the amount of time that we 23 would need to spend with Dr. Moline would be 24 significant, considering this is a brand new 25 article. The provenance is obviously going to come

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into question, the foundations are going to be to questioned, and we're ultimately going to be relitigating the exact same issues that we did with Moline 2020. Understanding they're now saying they're not going to use it in any way, that we would have the same questions for Moline 2023. So while plaintiff has made some references to attempting to do that, is the Court inclined to allow them to supplement their disclosures and their discovery and allow this new article to come in, which would basically reset expert discovery in the entire case? Well, Your Honor, I disagree MR. KRAMER: with that representation -- this is Jim Kramer -that it would reset discovery in the entire case. And I also disagree that they would be entitled or have shown any need or entitlement to any information in 2023. But I wanted to insert that just so that the record is clear. MR. GREVE: Well, Your Honor, we definitely would need to know if Brian Gref is included in the Moline 2023 article. That would be extremely relevant to the Gref case. THE COURT: So I'm just going to chime in a

minute because, until this conference, the 2023

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good weekend.

article was never at all discussed by the parties. So this might be a situation where it would make sense for the parties to meet and confer and decide what's going on with the 2023 article before you want my involvement, particularly because it's an issue you just raised. So that's why, Mr. Greve, I can't tell you either way what my ruling is on the 2023 article because this is really something that was not at all within the scope of what we've been talking about until a few minutes ago. MR. GREVE: Understood. THE COURT: If there's nothing further, then the issue of the 2023 article, you can certainly meet and confer and send us a letter. will say, though, at this point, with the other motion for sanctions that just got filed, if your goal is to try to get this case moving along, the additional motions are only going to slow you down, for obvious reasons. Thank you, everyone. MR. KRAMER: Understood, Your Honor. Thank you. MR. GREVE: Thank you, Your Honor.

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